details of the funds allocated for electrification of railway lines in Andhra Pradesh and works completed so far and of the pending works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (I) Funds allocated for electrification works in Andhra Pradesh during 1989-90—Rs. 30.64 crores.

(II) Electrification of the following sections in Andhra Pradesh has been completed.

(a) Elavur-Vijayawada-Makudi

(b) Krishna Canal-Guntur-Tenali

(c) Gudur-Renigunta-Tirupati

(d) Renigunta-Ponpadi

(III) Electrification of the following sections falling in Andhra Pradesh is in progress.

(a) Kazipet-Sanatnagar

(b) Patchur-Bisanattam as part of electrification of Jolarpettai-Bangalore section.

British Airlines to fly from Calcutta

875. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

SHRI MOHAMMAD AMIN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the British Airways is operating 16 flights from India;

(b) if so, whether Government are pursuing or propose to pursue the British airlines to touch or fly from Calcutta; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and by when it is likely to start operating from Calcutta?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under the current bilateral arrangements between India and U.K., British Airways have the right to operate to Calcutta. They have to simply file their schedule with DGCA if they decide to touch Calcutta. However, their Summer 1989 Schedule filed with and approved by the DGCA does not include operations to or through Calcutta.

876. [*Transferred to the 1st August 1989*]

Hardship faced by the people of Tripura due to air fare increase

877. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for which the existing fare for the air services have been enhanced though it is a hardship for the people of Tripura;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reduce the fare for services to and from Tripura; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) The reasons for increase in domestic fares are as follows:—

(i) Rise in material costs and wages;

(ii) Increase in navigational and other charges;

(iii) Increase in food costs;

(iv) Financing purchase of A-320 aircraft;

(v) Rise in US dollar rate;

(vi) Increase in other costs;

(b) and (c) The fares of Indian Airlines ex-Tripura are already lower than the all India fares. Besides, Janta flights (Calcutta-Agartala and back) operated by Vayudoot would continue to be subsidised.